

Minutes for the Students' Council Meeting of the  
Students' Association of MacEwan University  
February 21, 2018 at 6:00pm in room #7-218

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**In Attendance:**

Stephanie Nedoshytko, President  
Robbie Lepp, Vice President Academic  
Parvin Sedighi, Vice President External  
Emma Patterson, Vice President Operations  
Jason Garcia, Vice President Student Life  
Andrew Bieman, Councilor  
Rachelle Drummond, Councilor  
Jacob Marler, Councilor  
Sylvie Masson, Councilor  
Jared Millions, Councilor  
Spencer Newton, Councilor  
Sophia Qaderi, Councilor

Luis Ruiz, Councilor  
Vanessa Sheppard, Councilor  
Aubrianna Snow, Councilor  
Tansy Spyker, Councilor  
Kent Strayer, Councilor  
Micheal Ziegler, Councilor  
Ashley Zielsdorf, Councilor

*SAMU Officials and Council Support:*  
Timothy Jobs, Chair  
Alan Honey, Governance Advisor  
Samantha Hay, Governance Assistant

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Meeting called to order at 6:01pm.

**1. Treaty 6 Land Recognition**

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University is taking place on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 6 region in Central Alberta.

The Students' Association of MacEwan University is situated in the centre of what we call the city of Edmonton, which is called Amiskwaciy Waskahikan or Beaver Hill House in Nehiyawewin (Cree). This is the traditional home of the Nehiyaw (Cree) and Michif (Métis), and meeting place for many Indigenous peoples including the Nakawe (Saulteaux), Siksika (Blackfoot), Nakota Sioux (Stoney) and other nations.

**2. Approvals**

**2.1 MOTION**

**TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 21, 2018**

**DRUMMOND/ZIEGLER**

**CARRIED**

**2.2 MOTION**

**TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 17, 2018**

**SHEPPARD/VPE**

**CARRIED**

**3. Presentations**

**4. For Information**

**4.1. Reports**

**4.1.1. President**

As presented.

**4.1.2. Vice President Academic**

As presented.

**4.1.3. Vice President External**

As presented.

**4.1.4. Vice President Operations & Finance**

As presented.

#### **4.1.5. Vice President Student Life**

First meeting of MacEwan's indigenous advisory committee update provided.

#### **4.1.6. General Manager**

#### **4.1.7. Q2 Financial Statements**

#### **4.1.8. Town Hall**

#### **4.1.9. Audit Committee**

### **4.2. Executive Committee Minutes**

Minutes of January 3, 17, 24, 31, and February 7, 2018 provided.

## **5. Question Period**

### **5.1. Written Questions**

Ziegler - For President: As chair of the Leadership and Engagement Committee (LEC), are you and the committee looking into planning any engagement opportunities for summer students?

Pres - The VPO brought this as a point of discussion to the committee. We had not discussed this topic in the past, but at our last meeting we considered different options to engage summer students and evening students. Currently, we don't have a concrete plan but we are now brainstorming before our next meeting. We are open to any ideas, as having councillors engage students over the summer can be difficult with fewer students on campus and councillors working full-time summer jobs.

Ziegler - For President: with the recent change in Alberta Labour laws concerning salaried employees and overtime pay, what is the most prevalent opinion on the Governance Renumeration Advisory Committee to rectify the Executive Committee members loss in TOIL?

Pres - Executives will be treated as salaried employees at the management level and SAMU must follow the legislation accordingly. The loss in TOIL is unfortunate, but the Governance Remuneration Advisory Committee has ensured that the law is being followed.

Ziegler - For President: though the Cannabis Legislation Working Group is planning on treating cannabis as alcohol; is the committee taking into account the culture that already exists around cannabis consumption?

Pres - The Cannabis Legislation Working Group does the best that it can to consider all options and factors. I am not necessarily familiar with the culture that you are referencing. If you could provide me with further insight I would appreciate it and could bring it forward to the working group if it is something that has not yet been discussed. There are many other factors than just a blanket solution of treating cannabis like alcohol, such as cannabis for medical usage. No decisions have been made by the working group yet.

Ziegler - For VPO: what is the purpose of the Reading Break survey?

Vpa - The purpose of the survey is to garner information regarding students' use of the break and their experiences with needing to study for assignments and midterms. It is trying to begin the conversation and gain information the true purpose of Reading Break. Student leaders continue to advocate for the mental health aspects of the Break, but there is little to no research backing these claims up, which we keep being told. I am hoping that this small amount of data will help future researchers pursue this topic.

Ziegler - For VPO: by your estimation, when do you believe Waitlist will be up and running for students at MacEwan?

Vpa - The Waitlist is on schedule and is set to be up and running when the Shopping Cart opens on February 26.

Ziegler - For VPE: has there been any discussion at the Travel Advisory Committee on making Faculty travel mandatory for student groups travelling abroad to represent the university?

Vpe - This has not been a discussion at the committee, no.

## **5.2. Oral Questions**

Topics include: University mission & vision; university request for consultation on campus demonstrations; Indigenous Advisory Committee & indigenous education; on campus security;

- 6. In Camera Period**
- 7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day**
- 7.1. SAMU Bylaws**

***MOTION TO GIVE FIRST READING TO THE SAMU BYLAWS***

**VPO/ZIEGLER**

Vpo – initiative brought forward through the bylaws & policy committee. Questions re gender neutrality & redundancy.

***MOTION TO AMEND TO ADD “AND STRIKING THE AMENDMENT TO BYLAW 50”***

**VPA/VPO**

**FAVOUR: ZIELSDORF, MARLER, VPA, QADERI, NEWTON, RUIZ, DRUMMOND, SPYKER, VPO, SNOW, MASSON**

**OPPOSE: SHEPPARD, PRES, VPE, STRAYER, BIEMAN, ZIEGLER MILLIONS, VPSL**

**CARRIED**

**FAVOUR: ZIELSDORF, MARLER, SHEPPARD, PRES, VPA, VPE, QADERI, NEWTON, RUIZ, STRAYER, SPYKER, BIEMAN, ZIEGLER, MILLIONS, VPO, SNOW, MASSON, DRUMMOND**

**OPPOSE: VPSL**

**CARRIED**

- 8. Consultation**
- 9. Evaluation**
- 10. Recognition**
- 11. Adjournment**

***MOTION TO ADJOURN***

**VPE**

**CARRIED**

Next Meeting Date: March 21, 2018

Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.